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PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: BOUGAINVILLE

STATION: KONGA, 1970 - 1971

Original documents bound with reports
for: Hutjena, volume 6.

Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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PATROL REPORTS

BOUGAINVILLE DISTRICT

HUTJENA, KUNUA, TINPUTZ, KONOS

<u>Report no.</u>	<u>Officer conducting patrol</u>	<u>Area patrolled</u>
<u>HUTJENA</u>		
1-70-71	K.J. Hanrahan	Nissan ans Fead Is.
2-70-71	M. Bos	East coast and Salus areas of Buka Is.
3-70-71	J.F. Tierney	West coast Buka Is.
4-70-71	T.M. Kelliher	Council area Selau C.I
5-70-71	P.P. Bram	West coast Buka area
6-70-71	P. Baram	Green Is (Nissan)
7-70-71	T. Tanu	Selau C.D.
<u>KUNUA</u>		
2-70-71	D.P.W. Showell	Keriaka C.D.
<u>TINPUTZ</u>		
1-70-71	R.A. Deverell	Teop-Tinputz C.D.
<u>KONOS</u>		
1-70-71	F.B. Donovan	Sinai C.D.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

①

District of BOUGAINVILLE Report No. KONAS - 1970/71

Patrol Conducted by F.B. SONDVAN P.O.

Area Patrolled SINA CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans —

Natives —

Duration—From 18/8/1970 to 19/11/1970

Number of Days 25

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services N/A

Medical N/A

Map Reference BOUGAINVILLE FORM 14

Objects of Patrol CENSUS REVISION, FAMILIARIZATION, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, EXPLANATION ETC, POLITICAL EDUCATION,

Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ / 19

[Signature]
19/2/71
District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation £.....

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £.....

Amount paid from P.E.D.P. Trust Fund

.....

.....

KJH:HC

67-11-17

KONEDOBU. Papua

31st March, 1971.

The District Commissioner,
Bougainville District,
KIETA.

KONGA PATROL NO.1 OF 1970/1971

Your reference is 67-1-2 of 15th February, 1971.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Annual Census, Area Study, and Situation Report by Mr. F. Donovan, Patrol Officer of Siwai Census Division.

The report indicates that the Siwai people have made considerable progress over the past ten years. Factors such as a per capita income of \$48.50, a successful co-operative society, highway type roads being constructed in the area, 1522 primary and 206 post-primary students, all within an area populated by 7,060 persons, speak well for the future of the Siwai.

The Assistant District Commissioner has shown initiative in arranging with Barclay Bros. for a bulldozer to work on sub district feeder roads and much good work should be accomplished.

Mr. Donovan has submitted an interesting report with a wealth of detail. It is obvious that a lot of hard work has gone into the patrol and the report. I agree that he should develop a more formal writing style.

(T.W. ELLIS)
Secretary.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67-11-17
ls
ff

Telegrams
Telephone
Our Reference... 67-1-2
If calling ask for DBM/vh
Mr.....



In Reply
Please Quote
No.

Department of the Administrator,
District Headquarters,
Bougainville District,
KIETA.

15th February, 1971.

The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU.

Konga Patrol No.1 of 1970/71.

Copies of the report of the above patrol and covering comments by the Assistant District Commissioner, Buin are forwarded herewith.

2. The Situation Report, Area Study and Apperdictes represent the sum of Mr Donovan's observations whilst stationed in the Siwai. It is an exhaustive and comprehensive report and Mr Donovan must be commended for his assiduousness. I agree with the Assistant District Commissioner's comments regarding style. Whilst many of the observations made are sound and well founded, there is too much conjecture - the facts are there for conclusions to be drawn if they were more tidily presented.

3. The effect of the administrative changes in the Siwai will be reflected in our district report concerning the trial period of the Office of Local Government. Even now it would appear that we need to post an experienced generalist officer to the Boku Patrol Post administrative area.

(D.N.Ashton)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

Encl.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA & NEW GUINEA.

In Reply Please
Quote No. 67-2-3

ML.ml

Department of the Administrator,
Sub-District Office,
B.U.I.H.,
Bougainville District,
5th February, 1971.

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The District Commissioner,
District Headquarters,
KIETA.

KONGA PATROL REPORT NO. I OF 1970/71.

Attached please find original and two copies of the abovementioned patrol report submitted by Mr. F.B. Donovan, Patrol Officer. This report is without doubt one of the most comprehensive reports which I have seen produced in this Sub-District, and which contains a mass of detail and information dealing with all aspects of Siwai life.

2. Mr. Donovan has put a tremendous amount of effort into the preparation of this report, and it is a pity that his style of reporting sometimes detracts from the overall merit of the report. Mr. Donovan has good powers of observation, he should now concentrate upon the development of a writing style more suited to official reports.

3. I have very little to add to the report. Important administrative changes have occurred within the last few weeks which affect the Siwai area. I refer particularly to the closure of the base-camp and a shift in the administration of the Siwai Census Division from Konga to Boku Patrol Post, and in addition to the re-organisation of the department following the establishment of the Office of Local Government.

4. I do not foresee any serious problems arising from these moves except that it may be necessary from time to time for the Buin Council Adviser, Mr. Salmon, to assist Mr. Schweinfurth, who is now adviser to both Bana and Siwai Local Government Councils, and whose workload, particularly with a bulldozer operating in the area, may become difficult for one man to manage.

Att.

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(M.Lang.)
Assistant District Commissioner

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67-1-1

Base Camp,
Konga,
via Buin,
Bougainville District.

January 5th, 1971.

Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub District Office,
BUIB.

KONGA PATROL REPORT No 1 of 1970/71.

Attached are four copies of the above report. One copy has been filed at Konga Base Camp.


The report contains -

- Cover,
- Frontierspicc,
- Diary,
- Situation Report - pages S.R. 1, to S.R. 11,
- Area Study - pages A.S. 1, to A.S. 22,
- Nine appendix - A.P. 1, to A.P. 9,
- Village Population Register.

The Census Tax Register/Census Roll for all Siwai villages has been updated and completely retyped. Held at Konga.

No camping allowance claim is attached.

For your information and onforwarding, please.


F.B. Donovan,
Patrol Officer.

KONGA PATROL REPORT No 1 of 1970/71.

The area patrolled is the Siwai Census Division. Konga Base Camp is located in the area and contact with the local people is continuous. I list hereunder the days of Census only, for these are really the only actual patrol days. However information was gained on many more than these days and is continually being acquired. On an average each week has 3 to 4 actual field days.

Patrol Diary.

Tuesday August 18th, 1970.

Per vehicle to Rusei village at 0900, with Council President Simiri

for Census Revision. Good attendance. General discussions. Explanation of Admin laws, policies, House of Assembly, Council etc. Lively interest. Thence at 1300 to Musiminoi for Census Revision. Good attendance and interest. Returned Konga at 1600.

Monday August 24th, 1970.

Per vehicle to Kunu village for Census Revision. Good attendance

and lively interest. General discussions. In afternoon to Tomu U.C.M. to check on airstrip progress.

Wednesday August 26th, 1970.

Census Revision at Mumu village for Mumu and Sikurai villages.

Good attendance. General discussion. Administration, government, council, House of Assembly etc. Not asked the inevitable - What is independence? but when is the Territory to receive independence? I gave Mr Gorton's answer - at the present time the policy of the Australian government is that the Territory should receive independence when the majority of the Territory's people want it. In late afternoon to Tomu to check on strip progress. In evening to Laku village to show film strips. However projector became U/S and thus an abort.

Tuesday August 25th, 1970.

Census Revision for Kokui and Kutin villages. General discussions.

Administration, Council, House of Assembly etc.

Thursday August 27th, 1970.

Census Revision at Kinirui for that village. General discussions,

Administration, Council House of Assembly etc. Impromptu meeting of Siwai L.G.C. in afternoon to clarify a confused estimates situation.

Monday September 7th, 1970.

Census Revision for Iegu, Materas and Turugum villages. General

discussions, Council Administration etc. Showed film slides at Moncitu R.C.M. in evening. All advised of National Day.

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Patrol Diary Contd.

Tuesday September 8th, 1970.

Census Revision for Rokuse,
Mokolinō One and Two villages.

General discussions, unity, Council, Administration, rural develop-
-ment etc. R.T.C. to Kieta in the afternoon.

Wednesday September 23rd, 1970.

Census Revision for Iaku, Hino
and Kuhino villages. General

discussions, Council & Administration, House of Assembly etc.

Monday September 28th, 1970.

Census Revision for Hanong,
Moronei villages. General dis-

ussions, Administration, House of Assembly, Council, Independence
etc. Discussions with Fr Lebel at Monoitu in afternoon also a visiting
european missionary/faith healer/evangelist.

Tuesday September 29th, 1970.

Census Revision for Maisua,
Naronai and Morokaimoro

villages. General discussions, Council, Administration, House of
Assembly etc. Visited by Medical Officer from Buin in afternoon.

~~Wednesday September~~

Monday October 5th, 1970.

Census Revision for Kapana,
Panake and Silaruho villages.

Discussions - Administration, Council, House of Assembly etc. To Tonu
U.C.M. checking on labor and progress with the clearing of the
rainstrip approaches. To Amio to see some Hari people re an alleged
knife attack this morning. Local court case resulted.

Tuesday October 6th, 1970.

Arranged itinerary for visit of
Buin High School Headmaster to

the area. To Matukoli village for Census Revision for that village,
Rebaru and Kupingku. Discussions. Administration, Council, House of
Assembly etc.

Tuesday October 13th, 1970.

Census Revision for Osokori,
Usokoli, Tonu and Nukui

villages. Discussions. Administration, Council, House of Assembly etc.

Thursday October 15th, 1970.

Census Revision for Purikoli,
Kakatakoli and Maintoita

villages. General discussions. Returned Konga. Visited by Supt
Butler, Dr Gostolza and C.R.A. liason officer Des McIntyre.

Patrol Diary Contd.

(3)

Monday November 2nd, 1970.

Education, House of Assembly, R.D.F. and general discussions.

Census Revision for Tonui, Toira and Hukoha villages. Political

Tuesday November 3rd, 1970.

Good attendance and interest. General discussions.

Census Revision for Sininai and Kunuki villages at Sininai.

Wednesday November 4th, 1970.

discussions - Administration, Council etc.

Census Revision for Iru, Miheru and Misiminoi villages. General

Thursday November 5th, 1970.

attendance and interest. General discussions with emphasis on tax defaulters, and the reason for taxes, this after an enquiry.

Census Revision at Horino village for that one village. Good

Monday November 9th, 1970.

prosecute the Council President for tax defaulting. He had done same to them in 1969. Seemingly settled amicably. To Haisi and Hiruhiru villages for Census Revision. Good attendance and interest. General discussions. Talk of a road down to the beach.

Lively discussions with a group of local people who wished to

Tuesday November 10th, 1970.

also Kimaku village. Political education, Administration, House of Assembly, Council and general discussions.

To Tokonoitu village/ for Census Revision for that village and

Wednesday November 11th, 1970.

also Tohu, Aitara and Kotu villages. R.D.F. and general discussions, with much interest about roadworks.

R.D.F. to Kieta. Census Revision at Runai village for that village at

Thursday November 12th, 1970.

villages of Moibinei, Lakemba and Suluhino. General discussions. Good interest. A meeting at Hurai school in the evening re a road from the Army alignment down to the beach, this per R.D.F. Very good attendance by people from Rusei, Musiminoi, Kutin, Kuru and Kokui villages. Extra good interest and the road is to be built.

Census Revision at Hari village for that village and also the

Tuesday November 17th, 1970.

House of Assembly and general discussions etc. Good attendances.

Census Revision at Amio, Siroi and Kaparo villages. R.D.F.,

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Patrol Diary Contd.

Wednesday November 18th, 1970.

Census Revision at Hire village

for that and also Toitoi and Koropo villages. Good attendance and general discussions, tax etc.

Thursday November 19th, 1970.

Census Revision at Ununai

and a population of 7,000 persons. A village for that village also the villages of Namagota and Harikagu. Good attendance and lively general discussions on the usual subjects, Council, tax etc.

every day is a field day, subject to office duties etc. sophisticated. Refer attached Area Study and appoint. Day to day activities involve Council supervision/advisory duties, police, magisterial, political education and rural development activities together with a small amount of office work.

Living in the area as we are, one sees more of the people than on a normal foot patrol. Many people are known by name. As above, contact is continual, hence my attached Patrol diary records only the actual days of Census. Effectually each day or any three in a week are thus Patrol Days. They are not listed as such in returns. There are no rest hours in the area so no nights are caught out. This Patrol covered 25 actual days of Census, extending from August 10th to November 19th. Since working in Songa in mid March, I have recorded 25 Patrol days and 1098 Field days. The purpose of my Patrol was for familiarization of the area, increase contact etc, and as a real purpose a Revision of Census. The last Census was in 1965/67 and a significant population increase has been recorded together with a number of interesting statistics which represent positive forward gains by these people. A completely new Census Tax Register has been compiled, typed and prepared on a village/ward basis. The files for the villages being censused need only be taken to the village rather than the cumbersome master coming to every village.

All but two of the villages in the area are covered by the Sivali Local Government Council and those two are part of the Nema Local Government Council administered from Bokri Patrol Post. The Sivali L.G.C. tax rate is \$ 2.00 per annum.

The attached information was presented after living in the area under survey continuously since mid March and would be as close to accurate as currently available.

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SITUATION REPORT.

INTRODUCTION.

Konga Base Camp in the Buin Sub District of the Bougainville District must be unique in that virtually every day is a field day, subject to office duties etc. The Administrative area involved covers 328 sq miles, 65 villages and a population of 7,060 persons. All but two of the villages are accessible by vehicle, subject to weather. The area is an economically viable one and the people are reasonably sophisticated. Refer attached Area Study and appendices. Day to day activities involve Council supervision/advisory duties, police, magisterial, political education and rural development activities together with a small amount of office work.

Living in the area as we are, one sees more of the people than on a normal foot Patrol. Many people are known by name. As above, contact is continual, hence my attached Patrol Diary records only the actual days of Census. Effectually each day or say three in a week are thus Patrol Days. They are not listed as such in returns. There are no rest houses in the area so no nights are camped out. This Patrol covered 25 actual days of Census, extending from August 18th to November 19th. Since coming to Konga in mid March, I have recorded 25 Patrol days and 109½ Field days. The purpose of my Patrol was for familiarisation of the area, increase contact etc, and as a real purpose a Revision of Census. The last Census was in 1966/67 and a significant population increase has been recorded together with a number of interesting statistics which represent positive forward gains by these people. A completely new Census Tax Register has been compiled, typed and prepared on a village/ward basis. The files for the villages being censused need only be taken to the village rather than the cumbersome master coming to every village.

All but two of the villages in the area are covered by the Siwai Local Government Council and those two are part of the Bana Local Government Council administered from Boku Patrol Post. The Siwai L.G.C. tax rate is \$ 8.00 per annum.

The attached information ~~xxx~~ is presented after living in the area under survey continuously since mid March and would be as close to accurate as currently available.

POLITICAL.

60. SRA

The Select Committee on Constitutional Development is to visit the Siwai Census Division on January 5th, 1971, next Tuesday, and if the activities of the last week are any indication then the people of the Siwai are politically aware, awake and interested. Two mass meetings and a number of village meetings has aroused considerable interest. As with the previous visit in April last a committee has been nominated to represent the local people. They to sit in chairs in front of the mass facing the Committee. Already a list of answers to the questions known to be asked - the green paper program and white paper information booklet have been circulated - and all looks set for an interesting meeting. The April meeting was a good one. The idea of having the prepared answers will save time and allow for questions to be asked of the Committee. This was entirely organized locally and is indicative of the local political awareness.

The political awareness of the people can be attributed to a number of causes - local government since 1959, regular political education by Administration officers and from Radio Bougainville, a large number of young Siwai people attending primary, secondary and tertiary educational institutions, long contact with the Administration and the outside world and an indefinite list which should conclude with the thought that the elected member for South Bougainville in the House of Assembly, Mr Lapun, lives veritably on the doorstep of Siwai and also that the member for Bougainville Regional in the House of Assembly and the Ministerial Member for Transport Mr J. Lue comes from Amio village in the Siwai itself. Added to this we have a strong Producers Society with certain members who take an interest in the Navitu Society in Kieta.

The District Political Education Officer has since his appointment visited the area a couple of times and received considerable interest. I have an Administration projector and generator with which I show P.E. film strips in villages of an evening. Administration booklets, papers, publications and pamphlets are available for collection by whoever from the Council Chambers. ~~Radio~~ Radio Bougainville broadcast programs of a political nature regularly. A large workforce floating to and from the C.R.A. complex, 217 at time of Census, and lastly an island which is advocating independence in some instances more vocally than some of the more vocal areas of the Territory. Interest is high and a good knowledge is held by all but the older village people, who let's face it are not all that interested anyway in something which will not affect them.

Political contd.

59.

The Siwai Local Government Council was constituted in 1959 and again in 1967, this time as a Multi Racial Council. It now has 22 wards which cover 63 villages. Two villages within the Siwai Census Division belong to the Bana Local Government Council. I am unable to understand why?, since these two villages are closer to Amio Council Chambers by a vehicular road than are two villages which belong to the Siwai Council. Haisi and Hiruhiru villages are closer to Amio than Kimaku and Tokonoitu villages and all on the same road. The former belong to the Bana Council, the latter two to Siwai.

A tax hike for financial year 1969/70 from \$ 4.00 to \$ 8.00 for all adult males, the same this year, together with considerable Administration assistance, R.D.F. grants, subsidies and concessions - free water tanks - has presented the Council in a more favorable light to the electorate and tax payers. This year we have had few defaulters and although tax is not yet up to estimate I fully expect the estimate to be exceeded. A high absentee rate of 'floating' labor is the problem here. A spate of roadwork using equipment belonging to Barclay Bros at the end of 1969/70 and start of this financial year aroused considerable interest. \$ 5,600.00 was spent and well spent. An agreement has been reached between the three Buin Sub District Councils, with the assistance of A.D.C. Buin, with Barclay Bros for a bulldozer to remain in the Sub District on the upgrading of village roads. Work to the tune of \$ 20,000.00 has been done in the Buin Council area of late. This is monies donated by local people in addition to tax for work on their roads. The bulldozer is soon to return to the Siwai area and although we cannot expect the same support I anticipate a good reception, more work expending the Council's allocation and further work as financed by the local people. With our good road network, our efforts will be towards upgrading.

The
The Siwai Council employs two Welfare Assistants, one of whom we hope to send to Ahiona in 1971, has a tractor/trailer, maintains a Rural Health Centre and two aid posts, however its main efforts are in the capital works field. In 1969/70 it constructed three new residences and concentrated on road upgrading. This financial year our efforts will be almost entirely capital, and they on road upgrading. Our Council could be termed as a small but successful one and it has the interest if not full support of the electorate. Typically the Councillors are mostly elected but not representative leaders. Also in Siwai we have a highly successful Society, the cause of discussion.

Political Contd.

The coacoa concious Siwai is an astute businessman. As such he calls a dollar a dollar and a spade a spade. Many of the Siwai people compare and evaluate the two Administration introduced institutions as comparable bodies not realising that both are important and essential. They equate the Council with the Society. They equate the fact that one is statutory body supported by law as a local governing body which is authorised by law to collect tax from all members of the Council area. Despite education the people are slow to see the value of the Council. They are pro Council but can see little material evidence of the past eleven years efforts by the Council. A legitimate query. It is only since Council tax was raised and Administration R.D.F. grants began entering revenue that the finance has been available for capital works - roads, houses etc. A stone around the Council's neck for a number of years was the Land Rover which the Council bought and paid for and which was on permanent allocation to the Infant Welfare Sisters at the Konga Rural Health Centre. In view of the small budget of the Council maybe the decision to become a Stage One Council for P.H.D. purposes was a hasty one.

Elected Councillors overall are not dynamic personalities who would set alight their wards. Elected more for their passiveness rather than their political/economic/social ambitions. This applies to about two thirds of the Siwai Councillors. Any meeting is indicative in focus of their rather limited prowess. Possibly elected because they are not as forceful as their deposed predecessor. Do not underestimate the thinking of these people. Many of the more astute leaders in the Siwai are ex Councillors. Ex because they were too astute !. As the Council President has told me on a number of occasions - the Council is not as effective as it should be. Our resolutions often fall on deaf ears and many of the Councillors are not strong enough -. The Council has the tendency to pass resolutions about all and sundry which it considers to be final and statutory. When explained that Council rules are binding as is law but not resolutions - the query is - We are the Council, the law in Siwai ! Everything takes time.

By contrast the Society is made up more of the traditional leaders, together with some of the younger and better educated men who are more interested in making a 'quid' than worrying about a broken pig pen or dirty village latrine.

Political Contd.

As appendix A.P.5, shows the Society is a most successful. Full credit to the local people and to the Dept. of Trade and Industry. As a member of the Society, one is entitled to an ever continuing income, subject to individual effort. The Siwai is not unlike ourselves. Prepared to work for a living but loathe to pay out money for no visible reward. The intangibles are overlooked. As such the Society has much to show for itself. More than the Council. Considerable capital assets, a great amount of local support and an increasing income coming from grower effort which unconsciously encourages grower support further.

The Council needs the Society, the people need the Society and Siwai overall needs the Society. Similarly the Society, its members, non members and Siwai in general all need the Council. It is to the benefit of both that a harmonious developmental program of common benefit for the same area is worked out and that petty differences can be forgotten as a broader economic future develops, and this to benefit all of the 7,060 Siwai people.

The Siwai Local Government Council and the Siwai Co-operative Producers Society are both successful bodies working for the benefit of the Siwai people as a whole.

The village Censuses which I conducted afforded an opportunity for me to meet as many of the people as were available. A good opportunity. It was interesting to note the differences, if small between people and villages of the different areas of the Census Division. Religion, sophistication, standard of living, standard of roads, political ideologies etc. We now have an accurate understanding of the whereabouts of all the people. Similarly it was explained that there was to be a Territory Census in 1971. Current events, political topics, Council and Rural Development Fund projects were discussed at every opportunity. The new Census roll will facilitate the Territory Census next year.

The Member of the House of Assembly for South Bougainville, Mr Paul Lapun M.H.A. is regarded as a true politician and has much support. However his somewhat radical tendencies - Navitu, No C.R.M., independence for Bougainville etc, brings him in for some rebuke. He is however popular. The Member for the Regional Bougainville Electorate and Ministerial Member for Transport Mr J. Lue although from the same area does not enjoy the same support. He is not a dynamic personality, although dedicated. His regular and continuing absences from the area make him not overly popular. Because of his

Political Contd.

close association with Administration officers and Administration duties he is oft regarded as working for the Administration and the Australian Government rather than his own people. Lue admits that this bothers him. And he losing face with his electorate as a result.

Navitu receives limited truck in this area. Its supporters are mainly young men just returned from Kieta or the C.R.A. complex. Navitu is promoted by certain individuals in the Society, noticeably those with BUSIBA connections. Two of the Siwai L.G.C. members have leanings towards Navitu. They Cr Soiri who is employed as a D.A.S.F. tractor driver. He is a nebulous sort of fellow who is openly 'anti' and difficult to get along with. His problems are his own and luckily few people take much notice although they all listen. He is overshadowed in his ward by a very astute and reasonably popular if more influential ex Councillor, Anthony Pottungah. The ex President and current Council Vice President, Kamuai Kaita is a different kettle of fish. He is openly anti, persistently difficult and often just blatantly un cooperative. He takes to task all that is done, has been done and will be done. Unfortunately he has not the resources to substitute a more suitable and equitable, for him, 'system'. Typical of Kamuai is his insistence that he and his people are not receiving sufficient political education. At the initiation of the District Political Education Officer, a District Political Education Course is convened and Kamuai, because of his vociferous support for such an 'excellent' move, I told you so, is duly nominated to represent the Siwai area. Cum departure time our erstwhile friend is not to be found, lost into the labrynth of a pig eating celebration. Frustrating, indeed!

Barry Middlemiss our erstwhile savior has made little impact. He has his followers or disciples, but they having less influence than the twelve. His motives are questioned by many. As different to most Europeans, as to motives, intentions and reason for it all. His main interest seems to be in bulk buying of baskets from the Society, per the convenience of having stogges 'on the spot' ready to assist wherever and whenever. One of whom will shave the next time for the first time, and he a disciple! Anthony Anungu is a different kind of fellow. Partly educated, astute, openly anti, and partly influential, he has the potential to do much harm to the Administration. As secretary of the Busiba Society of Cooperatives and ~~propagator~~ promoter of the Siwai Wholesale Society, he is growing in stature. Attention from his own generation and interest from some others. We will have to see!

Political Contd.

As explained on page A.S. 22, Q, the Siwai people have received much benefit over the years from the Administration, and even if some of their ideas belie their progress, we must still respect/~~their~~/progress, astuteness and endeavor. They appreciate what the Administration has done for them, and lets face it, a lot, and now the growing movement is for 'lets try ourselves'. When, how or to what extent? The Council opposes independence at the present time, some members of the Society favor it. The fact that many people are undecided is indicative of these 'changing times!

The notion of independence for these people is no longer nebulous, now a reality. Independence as an island or as part of a unite country? The movement has begun and only time will remove the cloak from the real thing. However at this stage despite much sustained effort over the years, I doubt if the average Siwai villager understands the full implications and inevitabilities of such a move.

Does it mean - no kiaps,
no Administration,
no Australian finance,
we run all ourselves, etc etc,

and I think the average villager still thinks that the extra few years wait will be worthwhile. The movement has started, however the politically concious and economically sound Siwai seems to exemplift that catchy Moretein ad -

'When you are on a good thing, stick to it'

This they will for a few years yet.

Sport is not as popular as we would expect. A high rate of absenteeism at school/work limits the available number of participants. Following the Saturday market at Kanga, soccer is played at the 'B' school. Apart from this there is little else. An application to the District Sports Development Board for an all-village could see another playing field become reality. At this stage, though, nothing has been heard. The Council Welfare Assistants encourage womens sport as they do general womens activities - cooking, and sewing etc on their regular village visits.

SOCIAL.

The 7,060 people of the ~~MM~~ Siwai Census Division have received many concessions from this modern age as assists to improve their social system.

The area has ten primary schools and an attendance of 1,522 pupils of Standard six and under. Nine of these being Mission schools, the tenth, at Konga, Administration. And for the record the Konga 'T' School had the highest Standard Six pass ratio of all Bougainville schools for the year 1970. Students attending post primary educational institutions number 206. This must auger well for the future. A labor force totalling 564 as employed beyond the village represents a steady influence on traditional social patterns. A mixing and we hope, broadening.

The nine aid posts/hospitals are responsible for a very high standard of health/hygiene. Villages are clean and well maintained. School dental clinics are regularly conducted by the dentist from Buin. The birth rate seems high although as explained in B.a. on A.S. 4., it was not calculated. Similarly the death rate seems low, in the light of the number of persons beyond the age of 46 as being 866 or 12.3% of the population.

Housing is practical and consists mostly of native materials although there are permanent material buildings in most of the villages and oftimes more than one. However having a native ~~material~~st materials house myself, I can imagine a permanent materials as being so much hotter. But in this changing world its the status that counts. All villages have a 'haus garamut' which is reserved for men only and serves as a house of inspiration. Each house is owned by a 'big man' and there is usually only the one in each village. When the drums beat, they beat for a reason be it an invitation to a feast, a singsing or merely the passing of a message. Because of the high rainfall, 320" is high, isn't it ?, water supply is no problem. All villages have access to one or more clean, fast flowing and seemingly hygenic rivers/creeks/waterways. Because of the particularly good road network, there are no rest houses in any villages.

Sport is not as popular as we would expect. A high rate of absenteeism at school/work limits the available number of participants. Following the Saturday market at Konga, soccer is played at the 'T' school. Apart from this there is little else. An application to the District Sports Development Board for an allocation could see another playing field become reality. At this stage, though, nothing has been heard. The Council Welfare Assistants encourage womens sport as they do general womens activities - cooking, and sewing etc on their regular village visits.

SOCIAL contd.

The Siwai is a law respecting person who seems more intent on growing cocoa, raising a family and making money than raising a fracas. Apart from the usual land/women disputes there is only the odd assault or striking charge. And whatsmore most disputes are settled amicably in the village rather than presenting them to the government. The Siwai men are prolific drinkers and attack the amber with abandon. Their only blemish is the parties which sell stubbies for 40c - 60c and the promoter makes a whack of a profit. However this has greatly declined with the recent opening of a liquor store in the area, ie the granting of a liquor licence to an existing store.

Mission influence extending from German times has consolidated their influence in the area and most people are adherents. The people are split between the two larger missions, Roman Catholic and United Church, while there are splinter groups belonging to the Seventh Day Adventist and Baptist Churches. The former two, cater for pastoral, medical and educational wants of the people. The latter are purely pastoral. Refer A.S. 11., H., for a more detailed treatment. A recent visitor to Siwai has been a 'Pastor John Pasterkamph' from Rabaul who claims alliance with the South Seas Evangelical Mission. He is allegedly a faith healer. But he had little success on his last visit and made a short stay only. One of the many red herrings that the indigenes face today!

Whilst at Mokolino village and on census, during a village inspection I noticed a huge number of pigs cooped up in an enclosure so small that they could not turn around let alone sleep on the ground. Twenty eight there were in a space sufficient allowing for a little fresh air of one pig only. They had been there for two weeks without food or water, looked lean and 'stank'. Seems that a man had died in this village a few weeks before and many mourners had attended his funeral. This was the deceased's brothers way of repaying their visit. And when the pigs were cut and feasted upon, some feast it was. But the poor pigs and this is 1970!

A teacher at the Konga P.T.S. who is a Siwai and who has seen service in Papua and the Highlands, received a letter saying that his brother, a Siwai and a P.W.D. carpenter at Mendi was about to marry a girl from that area. Shocked out of his mind he sought the equivalent of a court order prohibiting same. A spoiling of the races and he most upset.

The economically viable Siwai, reasonably sophisticated and yet not as socially advanced as statistics make you believe.

ECONOMIC.

Refer page A.S. 17, M., for a breakdown of the economy of the Siwai Census Division also the appendices A.P.1, A.P. 3, A.P. 4, A.P. 5, A.P. 8, and A.P. 9, for additional information to supplement the above.

As statistics show the Siwai overall is a very sound area financially and there is no reason to consider why this state of affairs will not continue. The complication will arise when the number of students leaving the area for further studies and later a career, leaves the available labor force in the area as below that required to maintain an existing rate of agricultural output and promote an expansion.

There is no difficulty experienced in the paying of Council tax. Exemptions are granted, but this invariably where an individual has considerable school fares/fees to pay. One fellow from Maisua village has three children at Hutjenz High School at Buka so he has \$ 120.00 in school fees plus air fares for all return at each school vacation. Although not yet up to estimate our tax collection is proceeding well and I envisage that it will be over the estimate. A high floating absentee population working at the copper project accounts for this in part.

The emphasis by the local Council in this field has been on roadwork of late. A spate of roadwork at the end of the last financial year together with that planned for the next month or so and when the bulldozer returns to the area from Buin has injected a sense of participation by the Council into the local economy. The Council is also currently engaged in the upgrading of a small Mission airstrip at Tonu. This latterly to Cat C., standard. This will facilitate all weather access to the outside world from the oft marooned Siwai.

A group of people financially secure and with a sound economic base for continuing prosperity. The hitch will come if the area, island, country attains its independence prior to the populace being ready. By the sound of the rumblings at the meeting of the Select Committee this morning, this will be the case. Refer my 1-5-2 of 5.1.71 to A.D.C. Buin. A regular income, good communications, good educational facilities, a qualified work force and the facilities for a good living standard - imported food, furniture, utensils and modern clothing - what else could these people demand at this stage. A far cry from the S.O.L. of many other people in this young country we now know as Pagini. Oh yes, maybe they want to try their hand at running things. Let us sit back and watch. All mistakes are now ours. They will then belong to the locals themselves. Cry wolf!

MISCELLANEOUS.

Returning from the Council Chambers yesterday morning I found that I had to drive the vehicle through two newly erected gates, open and close them and then find that my residence had 84 new residents. Eighty four D.A.S. & F. cows all intent on being friendly and leaving me little presents. Dung. And lo if they did not wake me up nice and early this morning as they shook my house as the odd one or two scratched itself. This at 0510. As Mr A.D.C. Lang said this morning that one must have a sense of humour. We all have and in retrospect that is the best policy. And if the reader is a little puzzled by all this - lets set the record straight. It really is funny.

Konga is a Base Camp located on a small area of land on part of a lease which the locals and D.A.S. & F. maintain is just that. And in this vexatious situation, people being what they are, our present landlord is loathe to fence our little lot and minimize our fraternization with the four legged saviours of Siwai. This has rubbed off to all D.A.S. & F. staff and many local people in this highly prosperous and agriculturally orientated society. So much so that the local people are loathe to allow other Administration departments to squat on this Administration land, and whatsmore are loathe to allocate more land for an extension of Administration facilities in the Siwai area. P.W.D., Trade and Industry, Education, Police, and the many other essential departments. It is a dampener.

Similarly the attitude of the Siwai to mining activity and they with a fortune on their beach - mineral sands. And no doubt other minerals in their midst in this minerally rich island. Their reluctance is hard to understand by one who knows of the advantages, and many Siwai's must, having seen Fanguna shaping up.

Another thing. The reluctance by the local people to 'allow' non indigenes to trade in the area. This will be resolved one way or another and I look forward to reading the reasons given for a rejection by the Council's licencing committee, if such is the case. Who says there is no discrimination. The boot on the other foot.

The Siwai is an interesting individual and an even more interesting group. If very insular and seemingly narrow minded he is more the harder to understand. The Council President says that he feels the people and their Councillors are not 100% behind him. This in a country/island who this morning nominated March 1971, only six weeks away as the time for a referendum. For what ?. I wonder if they all know the implications.

/January/

Too much, too soon for too little. ? Siwai in/1971.